



Connecticut River Area Health District

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Serving Old Saybrook, Clinton and Deep River

DEPT. OF WATER PROTECTION AND LAND REUSE
PLANNING & STANDARDS DIVISION

August 29, 2013

SEP 04 2013

Chris Sullivan
Planning & Standards Division
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse
CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: COMMENTS ON DRAFT TMDL REPORT FOR THE CLINTON ESTUARY

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

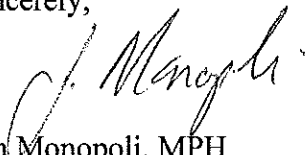
This office obtained a copy of the draft TMDL summary report for the Clinton Estuary dated May 2013. Upon review, we offer the following comments:

1. On page 22 of the report, it is mentioned that on-site sewage disposal systems damaged post Storm Irene need to be repaired. This office has worked to facilitate completion of several repairs to systems along the Shore Road area since Storm Irene as well as Storm Sandy. We continue to work in this area of town to ensure a few pending repairs are completed. I could supply you with a spreadsheet of our activity that we had prepared and recently shared with the Clinton Shellfish Commission.
2. CRAHD has issued over 300 permits for on-site sewage disposal repairs just in the 2012-2013 fiscal year alone. Seventy two of these repairs were in the town of Clinton.
3. In the report, there was no inclusion of our annual sampling program for beach and bathing waters. We have several seasons of data on bacterial quality of public bathing areas that we have sampled weekly during each bathing season.
4. On page 27, you mention septic system monitoring programs. You also recommend the establishment of a monitoring system involving inspections on page 30. While the health district also supports septic system monitoring programs, and our agency and the WPCA do some work in this area, we currently lack the manpower to elevate to this type of program without additional funding. We would certainly welcome dialogue to be part of this if the funding were made available to the district or the town of Clinton for this purpose.
5. On page 12 is shown a map indicating failing septic systems with green triangles. We would like to get more specific information on the location and status of these systems so we may cross reference with our repair permit activities.

The CT River Area Health District supports improvement of water quality along the shoreline of Clinton and beyond to improve recreational and shellfish harvest opportunities and overall quality of life. It is our hope that a summary report such as this

leads to progressive funding opportunities to address some of the concerns outlined in this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Monopoli". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Jim Monopoli, MPH
Director of Health

CC: Willie Fritz, First Selectman
Wayne Church, Chairman, Clinton Shellfish Commission
Hal Dolan, Chairman, Clinton WPCC
Robert Scully, CT DPH